

HOUSE RESOLUTION 397

By Bone

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Cameron Thompson
on his capture of the National Cutting Horse
Association's Junior Youth World Championship.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly is pleased to specially honor those successful individuals that, through their magnificent exploits, have achieved goals far and above the masses and bring honor to the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, one such outstanding person is Cameron Thompson, who, in February of this year, won the Junior Youth World Championship presented by the National Cutting Horse Association (NCHA); and

WHEREAS, Mr. Thompson's victory is even more impressive with his distinction of being the first Tennessean to achieve this prestigious title; and

WHEREAS, riding horses since he was just four months old, Cameron Thompson has been competing since he was seven; and

WHEREAS, Cameron beat out stiff competition to become a world champion at just fourteen years old; he competed against an estimated one thousand riders from the United States, Australia, Canada, Italy, and Brazil throughout the course of the season; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his win, Cameron received a J&S trophy saddle, ML Leddy's custom handmade boots, the Gist Master's Edition trophy buckle, an NCHA trophy, a Dell laptop computer, and a Dennis Moreland headstall; and

WHEREAS, the NCHA was established in 1946 as a showcase for horses trained for the task of cutting with horse cutting uniquely being one of the only forms of rodeo competition used to do real ranch work; and

WHEREAS, in the competition, riders are judged based upon their horse's style and ability to separate a calf from the herd with penalties and rewards given based on the

performance; riders are given a score from sixty to eighty and are given competition points based on their standings in the competitions; and

WHEREAS, throughout the season, Cameron Thompson displayed great skill and tremendous character as he and his family traveled more than 45,000 miles for shows in nine states, before arriving in Amarillo, Texas, where the world finals were held on February 9-10, 2008; and

WHEREAS, riding Cats Rascal, his favorite horse, Mr. Thompson impressed the judges and the crowd and tallied 194 accumulated points during the finals; and

WHEREAS, Cameron has more than fulfilled the promise and potential he showed in 2005 and 2006, placing second each year at the largest youth show; and

WHEREAS, Cameron Thompson epitomizes the spirit of determination and commitment to excellence that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, an eighth-grader at North Cumberland Elementary, Cameron further demonstrates his athletic ability as a starter in both football and basketball; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Thompson's noteworthy achievement is a tremendous source of pride for his parents, Dr. Maben and Julie Thompson; his sister, Jordan, who placed third in the world championships; his trainer, Zeke Entz; his school; and his community; and

WHEREAS, Cameron Thompson epitomizes all that is good in today's student-athlete, as he has achieved the highest level of success in the competitive horse cutting world while showing the greatest degree of character; and

WHEREAS, the perseverance, determination, work ethic, and talent of this young man not only made a champion season possible, but also surely bodes well for his success in every future endeavor; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Cameron Thompson for his success and thank him for serving as a fine example of Tennessee's youth; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and congratulate Cameron Thompson upon achieving the coveted title of Junior Youth World

Champion of the National Cutting Horse Association and extend to him our best wishes for his continued success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.